

## Message Text

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46

ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-11 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01 IO-12

ADP-00 COA-02 EB-11 COME-00 INT-08 CG-00 DOTE-00

JUSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 SCI-06 CEQ-02 EPA-04

OIC-04 NSF-04 OMB-01 FMC-04 ACDA-19 RSR-01 /212 W

----- 098887

R 180908 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 231

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 13751

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIS, PBOR, PFOR, XN, FR

SUBJECT: LOS AND NORTHWEST ATLANTIC FISHERIES

REF: A. STATE 85811, B. STATE 86290, C. STATE 86329

SUMMARY: AT WORKING LEVEL, GOF IS SYMPATHETIC TO US POSITION

AGREES WITH NEED FOR US PROPOSALS TO LIMIT FISHING EFFORTS IN

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ICNAF AREA, AND IS PREPARED WORK WITH US TOWARD THIS END IN COPENHAGEN. HOWEVER, FRENCH TECHNICIANS CONCERNED THERE MAY NOT BE SUFFICIENT TIME AT MEETING TO FORMULATE DETAILED CONTROL REGULATIONS. GOF DOUBTS USG THREAT TO WITHDRAW FROM ICNAF REALLY SERIOUS, SINCE THEY SEE RESULTING DAMAGE TO LOS CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES MORE IMPORTANT TO US. END SUMMARY.

1. RESULTS AMBASSADOR'S DEMARCHE TO MFA SEC GEN REPORTED SEPTEL. IN EARLIER MEETING WITH GIRARD (MFA) EMBOFFS DELIVERED AIDE MEMOIRE AND LEFT COPY TALKING POINTS DRAWN FROM REFS A AND B. GIRARD'S INITIAL REACTION WAS OF CONSIDERABLE SKEPTICISM THAT USG WAS

SERIOUSLY CONSIDERING WITHDRAWAL FROM ICNAF, IN VIEW OF WHAT HE REGARDED AS MORE IMPORTANT AND OVERRIDING USG OBJECTIVES AT LOS CONFERENCE. HE FELT THAT US WITHDRAWAL FROM ICNAF WOULD BE DEATHKNELL FOR OTHER REGULATORY COMMISSIONS FOR FISHERIES AND FOR EFFORT PERSUADE LDC'S TO ACCEPT SIGNIFICANT LIMITATIONS ON COASTAL STATE AUTHORITY OVER FISHERIES BEYOND TERRITORIAL SEAS.

2. GIRARD ALSO QUESTIONED WHETHER ICNAF HAD ACQUIRED COMPETENCE TO DISCUSS LIMITATIONS ON FISHING EFFORT, STATING HE THOUGHT PROTOCOL PERMITTING THIS HAD NOT YET BEEN RATIFIED. IN CONCLUSION, GIRARD SAID GOF SAW PROPOSED USG POSITION AS LIKELY TO RESULT IN DISINTEGRATION OF ICNAF, WITH GRAVE CONSEQUENCES FOR CURRENT AND FUTURE EFFORTS REGULATE FISHERIES IN OTHER AREAS.

3. ON POSITIVE SIDE, GIRARD SAID GOF IN FULL AGREEMENT THAT FISHERIES IN NORTHWEST ATLANTIC IN PERILOUS STATE. HE POINTED OUT THAT THIS ALSO TRUE FOR NORTHEAST ATLANTIC AREA. ONE RESULT OF THIS WAS ICELANDIC UNILATERAL EXTENSION OF FISHERIES ZONE TO 50 MILES. GOF HAS SINCE BEEN INFORMED BY DENMARK THAT UNLESS EFFECTIVE CONTROLS CAN BE INSTITUTED OVER FISHERIES AROUND FAEROE ISLANDS, LATTER SERIOUSLY CONSIDERING DECLARING 65- MILE FISHING ZONE AROUND ISLANDS. GIRARD SAID GOF IS PREPARED TO SUPPORT DANISH REQUEST IN NORTHEAST ATLANTIC FISHERIES COMMISSION BECAUSE FRENCH AGREE THAT FISHERIES THERE, WHICH ARE SOLE ECONOMIC RESOURCE OF FAEROES, ARE BEING OVER EXPLOITED, AND ALSO TO PREVENT A REPITION OF THE ICLANDIC ACTION. IN VIEW OF THIS GIRARD SAID GOF WAS SYMPATHETIC TO OUR POSITION AND IS WILLING TO WORK WITH US TO DEVELOP EFFECTIVE MEANS TO REDUCE THE CATCH OF FISH IN THE ICNAF

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AREA. HOWEVER, HE CAUTIONED THAT IT WAS UNLIKELY THAT THE RESULTS OF THE MEETING WOULD MEET ALL OUR DESIRES.

4. WE ALSO DELIVERED COPIES OF AIDE- MEMOIRE AND TALKING POINTS

TO THIBAUDAU ( DEP DIR, MARITIME FISHERIES) IN TOUYA' S ABSENCE. THIBAUDAU REPEATED MANY OF SAME COMMENTS MADE EARLIER BY GIRARD. IN ADDITION, HE POINTED OUT THAT ICNAF WAS ONE OF OLDEST AND MOST RESPECTED FISHERY CONTROL ORGANIZATIONS, AND AS SUCH WOULD BE EXAMPLE FOR OTHERS. FOR THIS REASON, ALTHOUGH FRENCH FISHERIES OFFICIALS IN FULL ACCORD WITH US VIEWS ON DANGER TO ICNAF FISHERIES AND NEED FOR KIND OF CONTROLS ON FISHING EFFORT PROPOSED BY USG, THEY BELIEVE IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT THESE CONTROLS BE CAREFULLY WORKED OUT BY EXPERTS. THIBAUDAU NOTED THAT THERE WERE FEW COUNTRIES ( UNNAMED) WHICH MIGHT TRY TO OBSTRUCT OUR EFFORTS OBTAIN APPROVAL FOR CONTROLS ON FISHING EFFORT, BUT HE THOUGHT IT LIKELY THAT AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE, AT LEAST, COULD BE ACHIEVED AT JUNE COPENHAGEN MEETING. DETAILS WOULD TAKE LONGER. HE HOPED USG COULD ACCEPT THIS AND NOT IMPLEMENT IMPLIED THREAT TO WITHDRAW FROM ICNAF, WHICH WOULD HARDLY SERVE CAUSE OF CONSERVATION IN LONG RUN AND ADDITIONALLY WOULD IRREPARABLY DAMAGE PROSPECTS FOR SUCCESSFUL LOS CONFERENCE.

5. WE JUST RECEIVED STATE 90315 CONTAINING US NOTE. WE WILL DELIVER TO TOUYA FRIDAY AND REITERATE AMBASSADOR' S OFFER TO FORWARD ANY QUESTIONS ON IT TO WASHINGTON.  
IRWIN

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NMAFVVZCZ

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**TAGS:** EFIS, FR, PBOR  
**To:** BONN  
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OTTAWA  
REYKJAVIK  
ROME

SECSTATE WASHDC

TOKYO

**Type:** TE

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